

GERMAN APPEAL FOR PEACE

SENT THROUGH THE NEUTRAL POWERS

ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE REICHSTAG

IMPOSSIBLE TERMS PUT FORWARD

INFLUENCE OF THE VATICAN DESIRED

LONDON, December 12.

A wireless message received from Berlin states :—"The Reichstag met to-day. There was tremendous excitement. Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, the Imperial Chancellor, had previously conferred with the representatives of the neutral Powers and handed them a Note containing the proposals of Germany, which are understood to be the basis of a lasting peace. Dr. Hollweg formally proposed that peace negotiations be begun through the representatives of Switzerland, the United States, and Spain. Germany offers to give up all conquered territory and to return to the status before the war."

LONDON, December 13.

An official wireless message sent out from Berlin on Tuesday afternoon states:—"Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg announced in the Reichstag to-day that Germany, with the Allies, conscious of their responsibility before God, before man, before the nation, and before humanity, proposed this morning to the hostile Powers to enter on negotiations for peace."

Another message states that in the German Reichstag on Tuesday Dr. Bethmann-Hollweg announced that he had proposed to the hostile Powers that day to enter on peace negotiations, and had drawn up proposals, which he believed would be the basis of a lasting peace.

Neutral Ambassadors Consulted.

The Chancellor on Tuesday morning received the American, Spanish, and Swiss representatives, and pre-

sented to them a Note, proposing that negotiations should be opened up for peace. He asked them to transmit the Note to the hostile Governments.

In Vienna, Constantinople, and Sofia the Governments of the Allies of Germany simultaneously issued an identical Note, the text of which was communicated to the Holy See and all the neutral nations. The contents of the Note are not disclosed. The wireless message adds:—"The four Allied Powers have put forth propositions which, according to their firm belief, form an appropriate basis for the establishment of a lasting peace."

A CROWDED REICHSTAG. CHANCELLOR'S STATEMENT.

LONDON, December 13.

Practically every member of the Reich-

Practically every member of the Reichstag responded to the unexpected summons to attend the meeting on Tuesday and hastened to the capital. There was a crowded House and the galleries were thronged. Members listened in respectful silence to Dr. Bethmann-Hollweg.

The Chancellor said—"The date for the summoning of the Reichstag was left to the discretion of the President, because it was hoped that happy events would soon occur in the field. This hope was fulfilled more quickly than was expected. Our actions speak for themselves. Roumania entered the war in order to roll up our position in the East simultaneously with the grand Allied offensive on the Somme, which sought to pierce our West front. The renewed Italian attacks were aimed to cause paralysis in Austria and Hungary. The situation was serious, but with God's help our troops have so shaped the conditions that our security is greater than ever before.

Our Heroic Submarines.

"Our West front stands. Despite the Roumanian campaign our West front is equipped with larger reserves of men and material than formerly. Efficient precautions have been also taken against the Italian attacks. Marshal Hindenburg, with unparalleled genius, has captured the whole of Western Wallachia and Bucharest. These swordstrokes are laying new foundations for our economic needs. We captured great stocks of Roumanian grain, foodstuffs, and oil, the transport of which has begun. Despite our scarcity, we could have lived on our own resources. Now our safety is beyond question. To these great events on land we must add the heroic deeds of equal importance by our submarines. The spectre of famine, which our enemies intended to appear before us, now pursues them without mercy.

The Same Old Lie.

"Behind our fighters stands the nation at work. Germany is not a besieged fortress, as our adversaries imagine, but a gigantic, disciplined camp, with inexhaustible resources. We have made progress with a firm decision to continue the progress. We are always ready to defend ourselves and fight for our national freedom and safety in the future. We are always ready to stretch out the hand for peace. Our strength has not made our ears deaf to our responsibility, before God and humanity. Our adversaries have evaded our former declarations concerning our readiness for peace since the outbreak of the war, when the Kaiser had to take the

war, when the Kaiser had to take the

most grave decision which has ever fallen to the lot of a German. He was compelled to order our mobilisation following the Russian mobilisation. The single thought of the Kaiser is how peace can be restored to safeguard Germany after her victorious struggle, and with a deep moral and religious sense of duty towards the nation and towards humanity, the Kaiser now considers the moment has come for official action towards peace."

Loud, Ringing Words.

German official news distributed by wireless telegraphy states:—The Chancellor (Dr. Bethmann-Hollweg) began his speech in the Reichstag concerning the proposed peace negotiations in a clear, loud, ringing voice. The first sentences evoked applause from all sides of the Chamber, and after every paragraph of the first portion of the speech the assembly demonstratively assented. Subsequently when the Chancellor came to the question of peace there were differences of opinion manifested, and the applause came mainly from the Catholic Centre Party and the Left. After the Chancellor had ended his statement the majority of the House along the lines mentioned applauded, and the people in the gallery joined in by clapping their hands and making a huge demonstration.

Dr. Bassermann, Dr. Westarp, and Dr. Ledebour favored an immediate discussion, but on the proposal of Dr. Spahn the Reichstag agreed to leave the summoning of the next sitting to the President's discretion. The vote was carried by an overwhelming majority.

The President, in closing the sitting, declared that the nation and its delegates would always support the policy of the Chancellor, which was far-sighted, firm, and intelligent.

PEACE NOTE TO NEUTRALS. TEXT OF THE DOCUMENT

LONDON, December 13.

The German Note to the neutral Powers says:—"The most terrific war in history, which has been raging for 2½ years, has been a catastrophe, which 2,000 years of civilisation was unable to prevent. The spiritual and material progress, which was the pride of Empire, has been threatened with ruin. Germany and her

threatened with ruin. Germany and her Allies have given proof of their unconquerable strength. The continuance of the war will not break our resistance. We were obliged to take up arms to defend the cause of justice, our liberty, and our national evolution. We had no aim to shatter or annihilate our adversaries. Despite our consciousness of military and economic strength, and our readiness to continue the war, we propose to conclude a peace which will guarantee the existence of our honor, liberty, and evolution. If our enemies refuse to accept reconciliation Germany and her Allies are resolved to continue the war to a victorious end. We solemnly decline to take the responsibility before humanity and history. If our enemies refuse to stop the slaughter in order to continue their plans of conquest and annihilation every German heart will burn with sacred wrath. God will be our judge. We will proceed fearless and unshamed. We are ready for fighting, and we are ready for peace."

(Continued on page 9.)

THE WAR

GERMAN APPEAL FOR PEACE

(Continued from Page 7.)

CHARACTERISTIC HYPOCRISY THE PENITENT CRIMINAL.

LONDON, December 13.

The German Note to the Pope states:—"Unlimited treasures of civilisation have been destroyed, and extensive areas have been soaked in the blood of millions of brave soldiers, who have fallen, while millions have been invalided. There is grief in every house. The destructive consequences of the war weigh heavily on both belligerents and neutrals. Trade has been depressed, and Europe, which was formerly devoted to the propagation of religion and civilisation, is now an immense war camp.

devoted to the propagation of religion and civilisation, is now an immense war camp. Germany, seized with pity at the unspeakable misery which has befallen humanity, is ready to give peace to the world. His Holiness the Pope has unswervingly demonstrated his solicitude for the innumerable victims of the war. Germany is confident that the initiative by herself and her Allies will find a friendly welcome on the part of his Holiness, and that in the work of peace they can count on the support of the Holy See."

Brutality to Belgium.

LONDON, December 12, 11.5 p.m.

The "Daily Telegraph" writes:—"We learn from an unimpeachable source that Germany has offered peace to Belgium and has threatened if her terms are not accepted to destroy the Belgian historic monuments, buildings, and even whole towns."

The "Daily Telegraph" declares:—"The Central Powers have offered Belgium the following terms:—Belgium to insist on an immediate peace with Germany, Germany to restore the independence of Belgium, and financially to assist in the economic rehabilitation of the country."

rehabilitation of the country."

GIGANTIC BLUFF. A FRIGHTENED BURGLAR.

LONDON, December 12, 9.15 p.m.

The leaders of public opinion in London and Paris regard the peace declaration of the Kaiser as a colossal piece of bluff, which is typical of Teutonic sophistry. The Germans know their military position can never be more favorable than now. They are acting the part of the burglar who has got the maximum amount of plunder, and who wants peace just when the avenger—this time in the shape of Mr. Lloyd George—is about to administer chastisement. Nevertheless, the world-wide publicity given to the declaration proves that Germany is anxious for an immediate peace, if it is possible to secure her spoils. The British attitude towards the proposals of Germany was well summed up by Mr. Henderson (the Labor representative on the War Council) yesterday evening, when he said:—"All the most unscrupulous military forces are against us. Peace at present will mean that the Allies will soon have the whole thing to fight over again."

Mr. Massey, the Premier of New Zealand, was loudly cheered at the meeting of the Imperial Mission in the Queen's Hall this afternoon. He said:—"An attempt is being made to open peace negotiations. That may be the enemy's point of view. I don't think it is ours. We will discuss peace when the proper time comes."

IMPUDENT PROPOSALS. ONLY PARTIAL RESTITUTION

NEW YORK, December 12.

A prominent official of the German Embassy in Washington has informed the United Press Association that the peace terms of Germany include practically a return to the territorial status before the war, with the exceptions of the kingdoms of Lithuania and Poland, and the readjustment of international boundaries in the Balkans. The latter question is of so complicated a nature that it means at least a partial restoration of the kingdoms of Serbia and Roumania. The terms also include the return of the lost colonies of Germany.

The Embassy official declares:—"The factors which help the German proposals are the favorable military position of the Central Powers and

military position of the Central Powers and the fact that the winter necessitates a cessation of hard fighting. The Germans desire also to convince the world that the Germans are not fighting the war for territorial conquest. The important question is to discover whether the Allies will talk peace."

Newspaper dispatches received in New York from Berlin in respect to the speech of Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg state:—"The galleries of the Reichstag were crowded. The President said:—'Germany, together with her Allies, conscious of her responsibility before God, our own nation, and humanity, proposed to the hostile Powers to enter on peace negotiations. Roumania entered the war in order to roll up our position in the East. The Allies began their offensive on the Somme with the object of piercing the west front. Both failed. Marshal von Hindenburg does not rest from his military operations, and at the same time firm foundations have been laid for our economic needs. Great stocks of grain, victuals, and oil have been captured in Roumania, the transport of which has begun. Great deeds have also been accomplished by German submarines. The German Empire is not a besieged fortress, but

a gigantic and firmly disciplined camp, with inexhaustible resources."

American Opinion.

There is tremendous interest in New York and in Washington concerning the proposals of the Germans. Count von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, will interview Mr. Lansing, the Secretary of State, and possibly President Wilson. In diplomatic circles the opinion is that the decisions of Germany are the results of her success in Roumania and the Cabinet crisis in England. The United States will transmit the proposals with or without comment, according to their acceptability. President Wilson refuses to make any comment.

The New York newspapers give prominence to the speech with huge headings straddling across the page, and pictures of Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg and the Kaiser. Special editions were sold out like wildfire. There was excitement in Wall-street after the first announcement, but quieter trading followed, due to the belief that the Allies will absolutely refuse to accept peace. The indifference in the financial circles, in which Mr. Morgan, the British financial agent is prominent, is interpreted to mean that the American financial representatives

that the American financial representatives of the Allies do not consider that there is any possibility of peace. They believe that Mr. Lloyd George, having at his command the organization for a tremendous offensive, is determined resolutely to pursue the war.

Demand of the German People.

The "Evening Post" states:—"There has been a great change in Germany since 1914. The speech of Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg is proof of prolonged strain, and it demonstrates the impossibility of German victory. This impelled the Chancellor to make definite advances towards peace. The demand of the German people for peace is stronger than we knew. The financiers and manufacturers have forced the Government to seek to end the conditions which are more and more threatening ruin."

The New York "Sun" writes:—"While Germany is scheming for peace the Allies are steeling themselves for war."

The Bombastic Kaiser.

The Kaiser has sent this message to all his generals:—"Soldiers, in agreement with the Sovereigns who are my Allies and with the consciousness of victory, I have made an offer of peace to the enemy. Whether or not it will be accepted is still uncertain. Until that moment arrives we will fight on."

A Cunning Game.

The United States Press Association declares that the members of the American Cabinet at Washington do not believe there is any prospect of the Allies accepting the German peace proposals. They consider that the peace propaganda is a move on the part of Germany in the endeavor to create a demand for peace in Allied countries. They believe that the terms outlined by the German Embassy in Washington have been intentionally exaggerated for the purpose of bargaining.

Serbia to Suffer.

Some of the Washington correspondents of New York papers say that the German Embassy in Washington has received the text of the German peace terms, which provide, in addition to those already stated, the complete restoration of Belgium, the evacuation of Northern France, the retention of the bulk of Serbia by Austria, the restoration to Bulgaria of the territory lost in the second Balkan war, the restoration to Austria of the territory already captured by Italy, and the retention by Turkey of Constantinople.

BRITISH OPINION

BRITISH OPINION. OFFER GENERALLY DIS- MISSED.

LONDON, December 13.

London refuses to become over-excited about the German peace offer, though naturally it was greatly eager to hear what all the Reichstag mystery was about. The newspapers to-day take the matter calmly, and mostly dismiss it, reiterating Mr. Asquith's Guildhall declaration of the Entente's war aims. They point out that it is impossible to discuss the idea in detail until a concrete offer is made. It is safe to predict that the supposed detailed offer emanating from the German Embassy at Washington, which has leaked out at a late hour, will not bear discussion. The London organs contrast Bethmann-Hollweg's bombast with M. Briand's and Mr. Lloyd George's simple declaration of a resolve to fight for a victory, made in their exchange of congratulations. The only fear in some quarters is of a possible accession of strength to the British pacifists.

The "Daily News," while declaring that the Allies must insist on a reasonable fulfilment of Mr. Asquith's declaration, considers that they should formally state their peace terms, otherwise Germany may possibly win a diplomatic victory.

The "Daily Chronicle," which fairly reflects press opinion on the question, says:—"If Germany wants peace, she can always have it on our terms. She has only to enquire what they are."

Britain is less concerned about the prospects of peace than about Germany's motive. Few believe that Germany imagined that she was able to bluff the Allies into a peace corresponding in the least with Bethmann-Hollweg's version of the military situation. It is conjectured that she is trying to play on the feelings of pacifist minorities, and also weak members of the Entente if such exist.

The newspapers opportunistically quote influential German organs, which show that the food problem in Germany is much more serious than has been supposed. Continental correspondents adduce fresh facts in the same sense, and also assert that the German mass levy is the last expiring

effort, especially in view of the revelations as to the enormous German losses on the Somme and at Verdun. These organs conclude that Germany's offer is a proof of her approaching exhaustion, and now is the time for the Allies to go in and

the time for the Allies to go in and win by means of supreme national efforts. Nevertheless it is universally supposed that Germany hopes to impress neutrals. The latter may accept Bethmann-Hollweg's argument that Germany has successfully fought a defensive war and can offer to negotiate without loss of prestige, also von Hindenburg's view that Germany has won if she has made the Allies' war aims impossible. In that case neutrals whose hopes have been raised high by astute German statecraft will be seriously disappointed, and may blame the Allies. Germany will also probably utilise the Entente's rejection as an excuse for aggravating her "frightfulness" towards neutrals' trade.

Mr. H. G. Wells describes the offer as the enemy's final peace kite. It was worth flying, he thinks, for domestic reasons. Possibly the distress is weakening German discipline, and the rulers want to stiffen the people. Nevertheless Germany as a whole accepts Bethmann-Hollweg's reading of the situation. If the rulers require further sacrifices they will use the refusal of the peace offer for that purpose. The "Daily Telegraph's" Rotterdam correspondent emphasises this view, and warns the Entente that the German boastfulness has lately been revived, and that if the rulers want Germany to make greater efforts this peace dodge will probably succeed.

A FRENCH OPINION.

Mr. Stephan Elausanne, editor of the Paris "Matin," who is in New York, says Germany's proposals will be quickly rejected. France will not consider any terms which would not include the restoration of Belgium and Alsace Lorraine, and the complete re-establishment of Serbian integrity.

AUSTRALIAN OPINIONS.

MESSEURS. HUGHES AND COOK SPEAK.

Melbourne, December 13.

Referring to-night to the peace proposals, Mr. Hughes said criticism would be premature until the details were known. He would be very glad indeed to believe that this was a genuine attempt on the part of Germany to secure peace, but it certainly seemed to be nothing more than a skilfully-engineered attempt to impose upon the neutral nations and upon the people of Germany itself. Certainly no terms of peace could be regarded as satisfactory, or even possible, that did not only provide for the evacuation of Allied territory, for an indemnity sufficiently large to repatriate the unfortunate inhabitants of

for an indemnity sufficiently large to repatriate the unfortunate inhabitants of Belgium, Serbia, and Poland, rebuild their ruined cities, and re-establish their destroyed industries, but also provided an effective guarantee against a recurrence of such a crime as this unprovoked and deliberate attack upon civilisation by Germany and punishment of those guilty of outrages against international and, indeed, all laws, human and divine, which Germany had authorised. Though the world, bathed in blood and groaning in the agonies of this war, was longing for peace, peace would be but a hollow mockery unless such wars and such crimes were in future to be made impossible.

Mr. Joseph Cook, leader of the Liberal Opposition, said to-night:—"I regard the peace proposals of the Kaiser as a consummate piece of bluff, and I sincerely hope the Allies will take no notice of them. The command of the Kaiser to his generals to fight on meanwhile should be our command to our generals with the 'meanwhile' left out. The proposals of the Kaiser's for an armed peace evidently, preparatory to a further outbreak of war at the earliest favorable opportunity. To consent to any such thing would be a thorough humiliation of the whole of the Allies, and particularly of our own Empire. In this war we are fighting primarily to crush the military machine, not to suspend it for use later on. Anything short of its destruction will be a failure to achieve the object we have set out to accomplish. Germany evidently has reached her maximum. We have not. This fact we need to get into our minds. It will be time enough to talk about peace terms when we have done our best and our utmost, and until then our generals, like the Kaiser, should fight on."

AN UNSATISFACTORY OFFER.

GERMANY SHOULD MAKE REPARATION.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S VIEW.

His Honor the Chief Justice (Hon. G. J. R. Murray), presiding as Chancellor of the University of Adelaide at the conferring of degrees on Wednesday, referred to the offer of Germany to make peace on the basis of a return to the conditions that prevailed before the war. "It appears to me unthinkable," he said, "that any such proposal can be seriously entertained. (Applause.) We have no desire to continue the struggle one day longer than is necessary, and I have no doubt that Germany can have peace to-morrow if she will agree to all we require. She must withdraw her forces from Belgium, France, Poland, Roumania, and Serbia, and she must make reparation for the ruin she has caused in those countries. (Applause.) She must also atone for such atrocities as the sinking of the Lusitania and the judicial murders of Nurse Cavell and Captain Fryatt, and we must have security that the world shall not be exposed again to similar horrors. (Applause.)"

posed again to similar horrors. (Applause.) It would be better far that we should fight on now, when the victory is half won, than agree to a peace that would be a delusion and a snare. The events of the past few weeks have not been calculated to make us cheerful. The refusal of Australia to sanction compulsory military service abroad, the political troubles here and in England, and the success of the German arms in Roumania have almost aroused dismay in many minds. I do not share that feeling. (Applause.) And I am confident that the young men of Australia do not share it. The spirit that stirred so many of them in the early days of the war is not dead. Now that the need is apparent it will stir again." (Applause.)

REFERENCE IN POLICE COURT.

There was an interesting interlude during the proceedings at the Adelaide Police Court on Wednesday, when the news was announced on receipt of the special edition of "The Express" that Germany was suing for peace. Mr. F. Seymour Smith made the announcement to the court. Mr. R. H. Lathlean remarked that it was the best news they could hear, and Mr. W. Hall, who presided on the bench, said it was to be hoped there would be some settlement arrived at. The business occupying the attention of the court at the time was a case in which a woman proceeded against her husband for having, it was alleged, left her without adequate means of support. The news caused a temporary cessation of hostilities between the parties, and Mr. Lathlean, who represented the defendant, jokingly suggested that Mr. W. A. Rollison, who appeared for the wife, should withdraw the charge. Mr. Rollison—"If we can have pre-war conditions we will be satisfied." Mr. Lathlean asked the woman whether she would be willing to return to her husband, and before she replied Mr. Rollison said that was not the question. Mr. Lathlean—"Well, it is still war, your Worship."

"CANTING HYPOCRISY."

REV. HENRY HOWARD'S OPINION.

Germany's peace Note was referred to by the Rev. Henry Howard at the annual demonstration of Muirden College in the Town Hall on Wednesday night. He said he was considerably in doubt about the importance to be attached to the alleged overtures to the Allies. There could be no question that it was a symptom of waning strength on the part of the enemy—a signal of distress. (Applause.) The Note was cast in highly vaunting terms, with virtuous disclaimers of any sinister designs, but if Germany were not absolutely destitute of any sense of humor, to say nothing of honor, she would hardly thus seek to throw the onus of continuing the war on Britain and her Allies by posing as the would-be benefactor of the race and by solemnly declining to take the re-

sponsibility, which was hers alone, of drawing and keeping the shadow of eclipse across the world. (Applause.) It was this solemn humbug, this canting hypocrisy, that not only nauseated humanity, but was enough to make even the devil's gorge rise. Coming on the eve of Christmas, and thus being coupled with all the force of the season's sentiment, the German overture created a temptation to which a tender susceptibility might be disposed to yield—a temptation to do discredit to the honored dead by the inglorious sacrificing of all for which they had fought, and, at the cost of principle, to conclude a peace that would mean nothing more than a cessation of hostilities until Germany felt equal to trying again. (Applause.) The very terms of the Note were offensive in the extreme and insulting to the intelligence and moral sentiment of the world. They repeated the insolent slander by which Germany attempted to fix the blame for the war on Britain, and by which she had been posing ever since as a cruelly misjudged and ill-treated Power. What possible credence could in future be placed in statements issuing from so distorted a medium as the German Chancellor? Surely Bethmann-Hollweg had for ever disqualified himself from negotiating terms of peace with any self-respecting, truth-regarding Power. Much as they sighed for peace, he believed they were not prepared even to consider it on the terms proposed. (Applause.) For a security against the recurrence of such a war they would want something a great deal more reliable than Germany's mere word. (Applause.)

MR. MASSEY'S MISSION

NEARING ITS END.

LONDON, December 13.

Mr. Massey and Sir Joseph Ward will today resume their negotiations with Mr. Long, Secretary of State for the Colonies, in reference to the adjustment of the additional payment for the cheese commandeered by the British Government. The question of sheepskins also remains to be settled. Mr. Massey hopes to leave for Vancouver in January.

Sir Joseph Ward, in a letter of congratulation to Mr. Lloyd George, expresses the hope that he will have complete success in carrying on the war to victory. He is confident that the outlying parts of the Empire will loyally and heartily continue in co-operation with the Motherland until the bitter struggle has successfully ended.

A deputation from the Highland Land League asked Mr. Massey to thank the New Zealand people for contributing to

League asked Mr. Massey to thank the New Zealand people for contributing to the relief funds for the distressed people in the Highlands and islands of Scotland.

The "New Zealander."

The first number of the "New Zealander" has been published. It aims at conveying news of the Dominion to our troops in Europe. Prominent New Zealanders are providing the necessary funds.

KILLED IN ACTION.

LONDON, December 12.

Thomas Storie Dixon, lieutenant in the Coldstream, and youngest son of Mr. Hugh Dixon, of Sydney, and formerly of Adelaide, has been killed in action.

Frederic Sydney Jones, second lieutenant in the Lancashire Fusiliers, son of the late Mr. Frederic Jones, of Sydney, has also been killed.

RIOTS AT HAMBURG. 1,000 KILLED AND WOUNDED

LONDON, December 12.

The "Daily Express" publishes a sensational announcement, for which it claims a reliable source, that of 20,000 rioters at Hamburg on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 1,000 were killed or wounded by troops brought from Berlin.

WALL-STREET BUSY.

NEW YORK, December 12.

After fluctuations in Wall-street there has been heavy selling. Yesterday there was a turnover of two million shares at an average decline of 4 points.

MR. BLAIKIE'S CASE. APPEAL TO AMERICA.

LONDON, December 12.

Lord Newton, head of the War Prisoners' Department, has taken up the Blaikie's case through the American Embassy. The Admiralty are watching developments. Lord Newton believes that a firm warning will prevent the butchery of Mr. Blaikie for doing his duty in defending his vessel against submarine attack.

THE FRENCH CABINET. LEADING MEMBERS.

PARIS, December 12.

The National Defence Committee of the

The National Defence Committee of the Cabinet will consist of M. Briand (Premier), M. Ribot (Minister of Finance), M. Lyautey (War), M. Loeze (Navy), M. Thomas (Munitions), with General Joffre's technical advice and assistance.

THE ROLL OF HONOR.



"Faithful Unto Death."

THE LATE SERGEANT P. H. S. BLACKHAM.

Sergeant P. H. S. Blackham, who died of wounds on November 7, was the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Blackham, of Semaphore. At the time of enlisting in August, 1915, he was on the clerical staff of the railways at Port Adelaide. He sailed for Egypt on March 27, and after



Serzeant Blackham.

a period of training there was sent to the western front. Sergeant Blackham was well known in local sporting circles, and was a prominent member of the Port Adelaide and Suburban Cricket Association. He was a member of the Seppiaore Baptist Church, having been connected with it from his early years. His attractive personality won for him much popularity.

THE LATE CORPORAL G. H. WILSON.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, of Yatta-road, Williamstown, have been notified that their son, Corporal George H. Wilson, died of wounds received on November 17 in France.

THE LATE PRIVATE L. VOCE.

News has been received by Mr. and Mrs. E. Voce, of Athelstone, that their son, Private L. Voce, died from gunshot wounds in France on November 28. Private Voce, who was only 18 years of age, enlisted in December, 1915, and was attached to the 11th Field Ambulance. After further training in England, however, he was transferred to the 32nd Infantry



Private L. Voce.

Battalion, with which he was serving at the time he received his wounds. He had for many years been connected with the Norwood Church of Christ Sunday school, and was also a member of the boys' club and football club of the church. He is the fourth member of that church to make the supreme sacrifice in the war. His only brother, Private T. Voce, is at the front.

THE LATE PRIVATE J. RIMMER.

THE LATE PRIVATE J. RIMMER.

Private James Rimmer died on November 22 as the result of wounds received while fighting in France. He was a native of Nottingham, England, where his parents, who have six other sons on active service, reside. Prior to enlisting Private Rimmer



Private J. Rimmer.

was employed as a porter on the Glenelg railway. He was 30 years of age, and was of a bright and genial disposition. He was highly respected by all who knew him.

THE LATE PRIVATE P. A. CLAYTON.

Private Percy A. Clayton, fifth son of Mr. Charles Clayton, sen., was killed in action in France on November 5. Private Clayton was 25 years of age, and was born at Giles' Corner. He was highly esteemed by all who knew him, and was a good sportsman. He was employed for many





Private P. A. Clayton.

years by the Roads and Billings Department. He enlisted early in the year, and sailed for the front in March last. Great sympathy is felt for Mr. Clayton and family, as a few days ago they received news that another son, Private James A. Clayton, will ill.

THE LATE PRIVATE A. T. HOWE.

The late Private A. T. Howe, reported killed in action in France on November 5,



Private A. T. Howe.

was the only son of Mr. A. T. Howe, of Longwood. He was educated at Scott's Creek and Myler schools. He was a good athlete, and was the possessor of a silver medal, which he won in an athletic competition. Private Howe enlisted on August 16, 1915. After a short stay in Egypt he arrived in France about March 28. He was 30 years of age, and left a widow and three children.

THE LATE PRIVATE A. DOHNT.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Dohnt, of Palmer, have been informed by the military authorities that their eldest son, Private Alfred Dohnt,

that their eldest son, Private Alfred Dohnt, was killed in action in France on November 5.

THE LATE PRIVATE J. HOLLOW.

Miss E. Schofield, of Albion, has been notified that Private James Hollow was killed in action in France on October 12.

THE LATE PRIVATE T. J. S. BASTIAN.

News has just been received that Mr. E. L. S. Bastian, of 16, Holland-street, Southwark, of the death of her husband, in action in France on November 5. Private Bastian left for the front on January 12, and after a short time in Egypt went to Belgium, where he took part in some very strenuous fighting. He next spent some ten days in a London hospital owing to a slight illness, subsequently rejoining his battalion in France. Prior to enlisting Private Bastian was a carpenter, and for several years was caretaker for the late



Private T. J. S. Bastian.

Mr. R. Barr Smith, of Torrens Park. He was also employed at his trade at the Motors. At the erection of the Burra and Renmark Hospitals he was foreman of the work. Private Bastian, who was 38 years of age, left a widow and three children. He was the eldest son of Mrs. S. Bastian, of Gloucester-street, Praeger. His early education was received at the North Adelaide Public School under Mr. George Gill. He possessed a host of friends, who will feel his death very much.

THE LATE PRIVATE A. HOOPER.

Private Arthur Hooper, of the 27th Battalion, was 25 years of age, and was born

Private Arthur Hooper, of the 24th Battalion, was 25 years of age, and was born in Adelaide. He was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Hooper, of 44, Gilbert street, Gladwood, and was educated at Port German and the Adelaide School of Mines. He enlisted at Port Augusta in February,



Private A. Hooper.

1915, and left for the front on May 31. He was a fine footballer and fond of sport generally, and was of a cheerful disposition. He served on Gallipoli and also in the school of instruction. From Salisbury Plain he went to France, where he was killed on November 5, soon after landing. He spent his 24th birthday on Gallipoli and his 25th at Salisbury Plains.



The late Private G. R. Waite.

HONORS FOR SOLDIERS.

LIEUTENANT J. K. ROBIN.

Lieutenant James Kenneth Robin, who has been awarded the Military Cross, is a son of Mr. Henry N. Robin, of Kensington. He is 29 years of age, and was educated at Prince Alfred College. He was employed for some time in the wool



Lieutenant J. H. Robin, M.C.

department of Messrs. Eager, Smith, and Co., and prior to enlisting on March 11, 1915, he was an officer of the Bank of Adelaide. He received his commission while in camp, and left for the front on October 27, 1915. His brother was killed on the Somme in July last.

LIEUTENANT J. L. SANDFORD.

A cable message was received yesterday from Lieutenant J. Lindsay Sandford, intimating that he had been awarded the Military Cross. Lieutenant Sandford left here in September, 1915, and offered his services to the military authorities in London, and after undergoing training received a commission in the Royal Field Artillery. He was in camp for some months in England, and nine months ago proceeded to France, where he has been continuously on service. Lieutenant Sandford is the younger son of the late Mr. J.

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Lieutenant L. Sandford, M.C.

W. Sandford, who at the time of his death, in 1912, was managing director of A. W. Sandford & Co., and was also president of the Chamber of Commerce. Lieutenant Lindsay Sandford was educated at Queen's School, and later on at St. Peter's, and at Wesley College, Melbourne, and then entered the firm of A. W. Sandford & Co. It is very gratifying to his many friends to know that he has gained such distinction so early in his military career.

ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Adcock, of Croydon, have been informed that their son, Private R. E. Adcock, is ill.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Ahern, of Hamley Bridge, have been notified that their son, Private A. F. Ahern, has been wounded.

Mr. C. W. Armes, of Broken Hill, has been notified that his son, Private D. H. Armes, is ill.

Mrs. Feehan, of Adelaide, has received a cable from her son, Private J. Feehan, stating that he has been wounded in the leg and is now doing well.

Mrs. A. Walters, of North Adelaide, has been informed that her son, Private A. L. Walters, is ill.

News has been received that Private W. J. Whelan has been severely wounded in France (second occasion).

Mrs. Francis, late of Douglas-street, Parkside, has received news that her son, Private Frank D. Francis, has been wounded.

Private Frank D. Francis, has been wounded.

Mr. and Mrs. Picker, of Hynam, have received news that their son, Private W. P. Picker, has been severely wounded in action on the Western front.

News has been received that Mr. E. L. Goddard, A.I.A., architect, now of the Imperial Forces, England, has been recommended for a commission, and has proceeded to Oxford for further training.

[Advt.]

No. 2110 Private Godfrey Snook, reported missing July 20th. Any information by returned soldiers gratefully accepted by mother, Mrs. W. H. Snook, Knox-street, Carpendown (supposed wounded).

[Advt.]

No. 1589 Lance-Corporal L. Williams, reported missing since August 4. Any news from returned soldiers will be gratefully acknowledged by his mother, Mrs. E. Williams, 55, Second-avenue, St. Peters.

[Advt.]

SOLDIERS AND THEIR PENSIONS.

Who are making the greatest sacrifice for the Empire in the war which is now devastating so much of the world? (writes Sir John Gordon in the "Returned Soldiers' Association Magazine" for December). One only needs to think for a moment to find the answer. It is the men who come back maimed, and in other ways physically shattered, and for whom life opens up only a vista of pain—too often of pain in loneliness. The suffering such men have incurred in defending our lives and liberties is obvious; but I have not seen anywhere a statement showing what is not so obvious—namely the sacrifice they make in hard cash, estimated by the value of their lost earning capacity, and after allowing for the statutory pension of 30/ a week. I have made a calculation to show this, taking the simple bed-rock case of a bachelor of twenty-one years of age, who, before enlistment earned 10/ a day; and who might reasonably be expected to earn 10/ a day till he is 60 years of age. Now, if such a man comes back from the war totally disabled, the following statement shows approximately the monetary loss he will have sustained by the time he is 60 years of age.

Difference without interest:—	
Life aged 21 earning £3 weekly—£156 yearly until	
60 years of age (39 years)	£6,084 0 0
Deduct payment by the Government of pension for total incapacity, namely, 30/ per week,	3,042 0 0
	£3,042 0 0

Difference with interest:—
The difference between

The difference between £150 and £78 yearly, viz., £78 invested at 5 per cent. for 39 years (yearly rests) £8,808 0 0

Now it would be absolutely impossible adequately to compensate a man who is totally disabled for life. He has lost that which all the money in the world could not buy back. Moreover, though it might be possible, the country could not well bear the financial burden of recouping even the money which he has lost. But it is surely an obligation which the country can, and should, meet, that totally disabled soldiers shall be paid a pension sufficient to enable them to live in decent comfort. The present pension of thirty shillings a week falls short of this. Take the not uncommon case of a totally disabled bachelor, without capital, and without friends willing to afford him living accommodation. What does a pension of thirty shillings a week mean to him as compared with his three pounds a week earnings before he enlisted? It means that for the healthy, well-paid life which he enjoyed before the war, he is doomed, a sick man, to live in a third-class boarding-house, where usually he has to sleep in a room occupied by other boarders, whose hours and habits ill-accord with the condition of an invalid. It means that instead of the moderate luxuries his earnings enabled him to enjoy, he has to put up with the plainest fare, too often roughly cooked. It means that whereas he could formerly dress well, and mingle on terms of outward equality with men like himself, earning good wages, and generally take his share in the social life of both the men and the women of his sphere, he has to be content with the cheapest clothes, and can afford to go to few amusements—public or private. I am well aware of the extreme difficulty of framing, as well as of administering, a pension system; and express no opinion upon the adequacy or otherwise of the Commonwealth pension system generally. I have not studied it. My present object is limited to pointing out what I believe to be a grave defect in the particular case I have dealt with, namely, that of the soldier who is totally incapacitated from earning wages, yet not so helpless as to require to be kept in a hospital, or other public institution. Further, I want to make it clear that in what I have written, I have had in view what I hold to be the just claims of such disabled soldiers upon the public revenue of the country—their bare legal right. All outside of that, such as repatriation funds, and other benevolent sources of help, should be to the good. It will all be little enough.

MILITARY MATTERS.

Melbourne, December 13.

In the House of Representatives to-day Mr. Laird Smith (Assistant Minister of Defence) told Mr. Charlton that he did not

know that any soldiers' wives were paid irregularly, but he would have enquiries made at once.

Returned Soldiers' Grievances.

The Prime Minister informed Mr. Fenton that in order to provide employment for returned soldiers extensive arrangements had been made for the appointment of committees and sub-committees.

The Assistant Minister of Defence told Mr. Finlayson that he had no knowledge of a deputation of returned soldiers having told the Premier of Queensland that they could not get work and that the employers were trying to use returned soldiers as a means of reducing wages. He would bring the matter under the notice of the Minister of Defence.

THE CANCELLED REGULATIONS.

Melbourne, December 13.

Senator Russell, in the Senate to-day, informed Senator McKusick that divisional returning officers dispatched 19 telegrams to presiding officers advising the questioning of voters of military age in polling-booths at the referendum poll. The instructions were issued by the chief electoral officer to the electoral officers. The number of cancelling telegrams dispatched by the divisional returning officers was 49.

HONORING SOLDIERS.

The Loco (British) Football Club met on Tuesday evening at the Y.M.C.A. to do honor to those members of the club who had volunteered for active service with the A.I.F. Mr. R. J. Holiday (chairman of the association) presided over a large gathering. The chairman, in unveiling an honor board containing the names of 30 members who had volunteered, referred in feeling terms to the fact that of this number four had made the supreme sacrifice. He paid a tribute to the members who had gone to fight, and said these men would always hold a place of honor in their memories. Footballers generally had done well, but the Loco club had nobly risen to the great occasion. It was an honor and pleasure to unveil the honor board. (Cheers.) A toast, "Our Allies," was given by Mr. J. Stewart (Loco club). Musical items were rendered by Sergeant Stewart and Messrs. D. Lench, A. Barrett, and Jas. Stewart. Mr. Gorup was the pianist. The board is of polished blackwood, surmounted with the flags of the Allies.

YORKESTOWN, December 10.—Private B. Waller, who was wounded in action in France, returned to Yorketown on Saturday. He arrived at Edithburgh by the Warrawee, and was welcomed by a big crowd of residents of that town. Mr. J. Ramsay motored the returned soldier to Yorketown. A large number of people gathered in the town hall. The Mayor (Dr. Russell), on behalf of the residents, welcomed Private Waller. The Rev. W. Ridge and Mr. G. Heaney also spoke. The town hall was crowded on Saturday night, when a farewell social was tendered by the Cheer-up society to Signallers P. A. and M. J. Duggan. The Mayor (Dr. Russell) presided. Private E. Poppell, a returned soldier, from Edithburgh, was present, and was welcomed by the chairman. Items were rendered by Misses M. Doherty, M. Carrack, and A. Guthrie, Messrs. Walter Wood, R. Steele, and M. Ingham, and the Yorketown Orchestra.

THE CALL TO ARMS. GONE INTO CAMP.

The following went into camp on Wednesday: C. H. Raby, W. Fairfield, F. A. Harris, A. M. Crane, J. Clarke, A. R. Reed, and F. L. F. Starr.

MISS PANKHURST ON THE WAR.

A good audience, convened at the instance of the South Australian branch of the Anti-Conscription League and the Women's Peace Association, assembled at the Queen's Hall, Grenfell-street, on Wednesday night to hear an address on the war by Miss Adela Pankhurst, the well-known advocate of women's rights. Councillor J. L. Cavanagh, of Port Adelaide, who presided, explained that the address formed one of a series Miss Pankhurst had agreed to deliver during her visit to Adelaide.

Miss Pankhurst, who was well received, congratulated the people of South Australia on the splendid No vote they had recorded at the referendum. It was that vote and the result of the poll in New South Wales that really decided the issue. (Applause.) Discussing the question of peace terms, which formed the real subject of her address, she said she was not going to say that the German proposals were satisfactory. They had not been permitted to see the full text yet, and might not, if the British censor so willed. Yet if, in this terrible conflict, one of the parties put forward peace terms, the onus rested on the other side to prove, before it rejected them, that it was fighting for a settlement on higher moral grounds. (Applause.) They had a right, as a democratic people, to demand that when the peace terms were presented to the Allies they should be made known to the public, and the public should have the right to pronounce an opinion on them. The terms should be submitted to the Federal Parliament for discussion, and the people should be allowed to have a voice in the decision. (Applause.) A demand so eminently reasonable could not be refused by any Government that professed to represent the people. As matters stood they did not actually know what they were fighting for. They were told at the outset, that the real aim of the struggle was to secure the restoration of the integrity of Belgium, and she felt sure nine out of every ten of the young men who enlisted then did so out of a sense of pity for that country. Not long ago there came the announcement that in 1915 a treaty had been signed between the Allies stipulating that Russia should receive Constantinople at the conclusion of peace. Russia had no moral right to Constantinople, which, if Turkey wished to give it up, should go to one of the Balkan

people, which, if Turkey wished to give it up, should go to one of the Balkan States that had helped to build up the industry of the peninsula; and she ventured to say that if Australia had known at the outset of hostilities that this would be advanced as a plea for their continuance it would have decided against the war. The jingo press at home was doing its best to incite the people against America. It was said that America desired peace for purely selfish ends—trade reasons and the like; but in America prices were going up, and in every home there was now a sense of privation. If, therefore, there was a strong peace agitation in America, it was not because the people were selfish, but because they were sane. (Applause.) Every notion that stood out against a discussion of peace terms with Germany at the present juncture would find itself hated and detested throughout the world. The present crisis, therefore, brought into prominence the whole question of what they were fighting for. If it could be proved that Great Britain was fighting for some great principle of liberty, and that the masses would be benefited as a result, well and good. But she contended that the fight was not for that. Not the masses, but the commercial and capitalistic classes that controlled the country and the Empire would benefit. The "preparedness" campaign that had been initiated in America as an outcome of the President's speech was gathering force, and if the party that engineered it gained the upper hand, and, when the time came, made a claim for what they might consider was America's "place in the sun," Great Britain would become involved in a conflict beside which the present costly war with Germany would pale into insignificance. But just at present America did not want war. There was one thing the war had proved, and that was that the young men of the world did not care much about nationalism or empire, but were all anxious to get back to their work, their homes, and their people. (Applause.) Mr. Hughes, in his manifesto to the soldiers at the front, had asked them to give Australia a lead with their vote on the conscription issue, but, unfortunately for Mr. Hughes, he did not get the lead he wanted. (Applause.) The only persons who now wanted the war to go on were bloodthirsty individuals, who could not possibly go themselves—the politicians, the parsons, and the Women's National League. (Applause.)

BATTALION CLUB SOCIAL.

Under the auspices of the League of Loyal Women the amalgamated clubs of the 10th, 12th, 50th, and 52nd Battalions held a social gathering in the Victoria Hall on Wednesday afternoon to meet Lieutenant-Colonel Weir and Lieutenant-Colonel Beever, of the 10th and 50th Battalions respectively, who have recently returned from the front. Mrs. Beever presided, and Mrs. S. Price Weir was present. The officers were enthusiastically welcomed.

Colonel Weir delivered an interesting speech descriptive of his experience as commanding officer of the noble 10th Battalion. He said

descriptive of his experiences as commanding officer of the noble 10th Battalion. He said Colonel Beevor was going in to do his bit as he (Colonel Weir) was coming out of action at Pozieres. The next time he saw his comrade was when Colonel Beevor was in a hospital in London, where he was suffering from a shrapnel wound. He expressed gratitude for what the ladies at home had done for the men at the front, and mentioned that the men got the benefit, as the higher paid officers realised they had the first need for comforts. He felt sure that in years to come they would be proud of the fact that they had sent their men, and any mother who kept her son back would be ashamed. Colonel Weir told a story full of human interest. Touching on the nature of the first fighting he saw in France, he said people wondered where all the sandbags went to, but they must realise the number of sandbags required to build breastworks when he told them of 60 or 70 miles, 12 ft. wide and 8 ft. high, of breastworks in one part where the water in the ground was too close to the surface to permit of trenches being dug. He related stirring stories of the work of the men in action, of the dangers of night attacks and the terrors of the gas attacks.

Colonel Beevor also addressed the gathering.

WAR FUNDS.

9TH LIGHT HORSE.

The annual meeting of the 9th Light Horse Trench Comforts Fund was held in St. Peter's Town Hall on Wednesday, and was well attended. The secretary reported that comforts to the value of £100 had been sent to Egypt. Letters were read from Lieutenants McFarlane and Wilkinson on behalf of the officer commanding, expressing appreciation of the gifts. Officers elected:—President, Mrs. Bowman; treasurer, Miss Bell; secretaries, Mrs. W. J. P. Taylor and Miss Keport.

HINDMARSH SOLDIERS' CHRISTMAS CHEER.

The committee of the Hindmarsh Soldiers' Christmas Cheer Fund, who are arranging to give a treat to the children of local soldiers who have left for the war, invite by advertisement the wives and friends of all soldiers to forward the names and ages of children to the secretary (Mrs. J. J. Doble), Port-road, Hindmarsh. The committee is anxious that no child shall be omitted from the invitation. It is intended to provide each child with a present, and in other ways to make the festive season enjoyable. Mrs. Doble and her committee are working hard to make the affair a big success.